NEWS

Town Clerk: Census forms, transfer station information mailed out

January 20, 2026 . 3:28 PM — 2 min read

Annual census forms have been mailed to all households in Winchester, as per state law. Additionally, residents should look for information about transfer station permits for 2026. WINCHESTER NEWS STAFF PHOTO/NELL ESCOBAR COAKLEY

The following was submitted by the town of Winchester:

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Annual census forms were mailed to all residents Friday, Jan. 16, 2026.

All households are required to respond to the mailing within 10 days of receipt.

State law requires that every community conduct a census during the month of January, and the Town of Winchester takes this opportunity to include an educational insert regarding how to purchase a residential transfer station permit for 2026. Every household that would like to take their refuse to the transfer station facility on McKay Avenue will need to purchase the annual permit online or at the Town Clerk's Office during normal business hours.

In accordance with State Law, the census is conducted annually in every city and town in Massachusetts. The information gathered is used to maintain a current voting list and to provide population and other information to various town departments.

Compliance with this state requirement provides proof of residence, protects voting rights, veteran's bonus, housing for the elderly and related benefits as well as provides information for the selection of jurors.

Should you be concerned about address confidentiality you may contact the Secretary of the Commonwealth at https://www.sec.state.ma.us/acp/acpabtidx.htm to learn if you qualify for this program.

Note: The census form doesn't register you to vote. If you are interested, to register to vote you may now go to http://www.registertovotema.com to register. This opportunity is fast and convenient.

The Town Clerk's Office will send you a registration confirmation [illegible] the mail to confirm that your online application was accurately received

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and processed.

The Town Clerk's Office will conduct the Annual Town Election on Saturday, March 21, 2026. All elections for the town will be held at Winchester High School Gymnasium, 2nd floor for all eight precincts.

Early Voting and Vote by Mail will be available for this local election. You must submit an application for Vote By Mail.

The census mailing will include a permit application for the Town's transfer station. Transfer station fees for the regular permits are $330 for the first vehicle in a household, subsequent vehicles are $30 in the same household.

Residents residing in a multi-family (2 family units or more) residence must purchase separate permits for each household unit. Residents with income eligibility may apply for a low-income permit online or at the Health Department at Town Hall lower level.

You may purchase these permits online or return envelopes will be provided and forms must be mailed back to the Town Clerk's Office 71 Mt. Vernon St., Winchester, MA 01890.

The mailing will include a QR Code for you to easily purchase online. Grey Drop Boxes are available 24 hrs. for those residents who do not wish to use the USPS.

Your current 2025 permit expired on Dec. 31, 2025. Please act now to renew your 2026 transfer station permit.

For more information residents may contact the Office of the Town Clerk at 721-7130 press #1 or email townclerk@winchester.us Please do and file today.

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Thank You,

MaryEllen Marshall CMC Winchester Town Clerk.

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The following was submitted by the Office of Sen. Jason Lewis: State Sen. Jason Lewis joined his colleagues in the Massachusetts Senate to pass legislation that protects residents from discrimination in the housing market as the Trump administration abandons its enforcement of the federal Fair Housing Act. Illegal discrimination continues

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Winchester Select Board approves overnight parking pilot, permit fees increased

The Winchester Select Board on Feb. 23 approved an overnight parking pilot, raised building permit fees for the first time since 2021, adopted the 2026 outdoor dining policy and directed the town manager to examine reinvesting downtown-generated revenue into town center improvements. The board voted unanimously to implement the overnight

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‘Chicago: Teen Edition’ dances onto the Winchester High School stage

By Talia Ho | Correspondent Fame. Fortune. And all that jazz. This spring, Winchester High School presents “Chicago: Teen Edition,” a bold musical that explores celebrity culture, media manipulation, and the cost of ambition. Set in the 1920s, this iconic production is sure to leave the audience wanting more. Performances will

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Ripley Chapel in Winchester presents ‘Syldason: You Are Welcome Here’

The following was submitted by the Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church: On Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m., live in-person and live streamed from the stunning Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church, Winchester, 21 Church St., join in with Syldason, a duo concert featuring Sylvie Zakarian,

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